

Message Text

SECRET POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 03924 111908Z

66

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 AF-10

DRC-01 /162 W

----- 099146

R 111340Z DEC 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4640

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T CAIRO 3924

NATO FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR XF EG US

SUBJECT: COMMENTS BY TASS OFFICIAL ON CURRENT SITUATION

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH USINTOFF DECEMBER 10, DEPUTY TASS DIRECTOR YEDRASHNIKOV ASKED POINTEDLY IF EGYPTIANS WERE PUTTING PRESSURE ON US TO ACHIEVE SOME FORM OF ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT BEFORE OPENING OF PEACE CONFERENCE. YEDRASHNIKOV GAVE HIS "PERSONAL" OPINION THAT SOME MOVEMENT SHOULD OCCUR PRIOR TO DECEMBER 18; BUT HE THEN SAID HE DID NOT REALLY EXPECT THIS TO TAKE PLACE. REPLYING TO QUESTION, HE SAID THE SOVIETS THEMSELVES WERE EXPERIENCING CONSIDERABLE CRITICISM FROM EGYPTIANS. SOME OF THESE, TRADITIONALLY FRIENDLY TO THE USSR, HAD BEEN SNIPING AT SOVIETS FOR THEIR INABILITY TO PRESS US TO PRESS ISRAEL TO DISENGAGE. FOR THEIR PART, SOVIETS FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO MOLLIFY EGYPTIANS BY NOTING VAST AMOUNT OF SOVIET

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 03924 111908Z

MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO EGYPT IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS; AND EGYPTIANS CONTINUE TO DEMAND MORE POLITICAL

ASSISTANCE AS WELL AS MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

2. ON CURRENT TACTICAL SITUATION, YEDRASHNIKOV SAID THERE WAS "DEFINITE INFORMATION" THAT EGYPT HAD UNDERTAKEN DELIBERATE POLICY OF HARASSING IDF, PARTICULARLY ISRAELI FORCES ON WEST BANK OF CANAL (WHICH HE SAID NUMBERED 18,000). HE SAID EGYPTIANS DO NOT BELIEVE THIS WOULD ELICIT A RETALIATORY RESPONSE, AND THEY SEEM QUITE PREPARED TO INCREASE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS AND COMMANDO RAIDS IN ISRAEL SALIENT. YEDRASHNIKOV SAID THAT EGYPTIAN POSITION ON WESTERN EDGE OF SALIENT HAD BEEN REINFORCED BY FIRST ARMY WHICH "DID NOT EXIST" AT TIME OF WAR'S OUTBREAK. HE EXPLAINED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO EFFECTIVE FIGHTING FORCE DURING OCTOBER WHICH WOULD BE CALLED A FIRST ARMY, BUT EGYPTIANS HAD BEEN ABLE TO FORM ONE SUBSEQUENTLY.

3. USINTOFF ASKED YEDRASHNIKOV TO CLARIFY CERTAIN INCONSISTENCIES IN HIS EARLIER REMARKS ABOUT MIG-23'S; SPECIFICALLY, WERE THEY SOVIET OR EGYPTIAN PILOTED? YEDRASHNIKOV REPLIED THAT, AS HE HAD TOLD USINTOFF SOME WEEKS AGO, EGYPTIANS HAD BEEN TRAINED INTO MIG-23'S AND WERE CAPABLE OF FLYING THEM; BUT THAT MIG-23'S CURRENTLY IN EGYPT WERE BEING PILOTED BY SOVIETS.

EILTS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, PEACE TALKS, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAIRO03924
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731233/aaaaaxug.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <07-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMENTS BY TASS OFFICIAL ON CURRENT SITUATION
TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF, EG, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005